The Queenstown News

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Friday, April 6, 1956

Paying For Federal Highways

The enormously costly proposed federal road program, now being discussed in Congress, has sharply focused public attention on the problem of how to pay for highways.

Robert S. Henry of the Association of American Railroads recently observed that if the cost of highway construction and maintenance is to be distributed equitably, some kind of adequate user charge should be colected from heavy vehicles. This charge would simply reflect their greater use of the road and the higher construction and maintenance costs they impose.

Mr. Henry added that neither the fuels tax nor the license fee is equitable. Then he said that the most equitable tax of all would be one that, in effect, "weighed" a vehicle and "measured" the distance it runs. As an example, a tax on tires would not only take into account the weight and number of tires used by a vehicle on the high ways but would measure the miles run. Such a tax is also feasible in administration, Mr. Henry pointed out, since it would be collected at the relatively few points of manufacture and would be paid but once during the life of the tire.

This certainly seems reasonable, as well as eminently practical. The user charge idea is in no way punitive. It distributes the costs of road building and road maintenance fairly in the light of the benefits the various kinds of users get—and in the light of the costs that their operations entail to the road builders. It looks like the best proposal yet made.

The Changing Farm Picture

The farm program that is finally approved this year may be based on flexible price supports or high fixed supports. It may contain a new experiment in the form of a soil bank. It may involve a two-price system for basic crops.

Whatever happens, the program will mark another attempt to deal with an extremely difficult problem—how to keep farm income at good levels at a time when production is still outrunning consumption and enormous surpluses continue to accumulate, and to gradually reduce those surpluses.

But, regardless of what the government does or does not do, it is inevitable that the farm situation of the relatively near future will be vastly dfferent from that of today.

We must feed millions of new American mouths each year. Despite current difficulties involved in disposing of U.S. surpluses abroad, there are heavily populated areas throughout the world which are woefully short of food and fiber, and it seems certain that more and more of the rich production of our farms will be wanted by them. Yet our agricultural acreage is shrinking. Croplands are becoming residential areas, industrial sites, airports, highways.

So, ultimately, each remaining farm acre will have to produce more. Farmers will have to have more and better mechanized equipment—not only for current production, but as an essential aid in soil conservation. Every technique and tool that makes for increased and more economical production will have to be used to the limit. Otherwise, within a generaton perhaps, instead of a surplus, we could have an agricultural shortage.

The Printed Word

Writing in a journal published by New York University's School of Retailing, Irving Settel repors that reports that retailers are spending record amounts of money on newspaper advertising—but are chary of the inducements offered by television.

The main reason is that retailers believe that "newspaper advertising still produces the greatest number of custimers for every dollar spent . . . ."

The printed word is still the best means of communication yet devised.

National Conservation Week

National Conservation Week observed during April 1-7. And it's impossible to think of a more worth-while activity.

It is to be hoped that during the week the American people get a better idea of what a sound natural resources policy involves. It does not consists of locking these resources up, so to speak, and hiding the key. It does consist of developing and using them wisely—so that we of today may get the vast benefits and still preserve them for future generations.

Our own country has proven the wisdom of that. Vast as our natural resources are, other nations are eqqually blessed. Our leadership has come from the fact that we've made the most of them under free enterprise development governed by sensible laws.

FOR RENT—House on Talisman Farm, (not modern). $25 per month. Call Queenstown 2151.

TO THE NEWS SUBSCRIBE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned has obtained from the Orphans' Court for Queen Anne's County letters testamentary on the personal estate of

SARA V. DRECHSLER

late of said county, deceased. All persons having claims against said deceased's estate are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the proper vouchers thereof, to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of September, 1956, otherwise they may by law be excluded from all benefit of said deceased's personal estate.

All persons indebted to this estate must settle at once.

Given under my hand this 15th day of March, 1956.

VELMA K. HURLEY
Executrix of the estate of Sara V. Drechsler, deceased.

Date: March 13, 1956
4t March 23, 30, April 6, 13

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Chester, Md. Phone Stev. 2762

Friday-Saturday Specials

POTATOES	50 pound bag	1.00
KING PO-T-RIK	can	38c
SMITH'S NAVY BEANS	package	17c
CREAM CORN STARACH	package	16c
QUAKER OATS	package	19c
LIPTON'S SHERBERT	2 packages	36c
HAUNT'S TOMATO SAUCE	can	15c
SWEET POTATOES	2 pounds	25c
ONIONS	c 2 pounds	19
CELLO ASPHALT TILE WAX	quart	1.13
MACA AMONIA	quart bottle	21c
PILLSBURY HOT ROLL MIX	package	32c
GOETZE'S HOT DOGS	pound	49c

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Funeral Director

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